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## **DRAMAtical Murder re:code - Morphine Route; Part 15 Translation [GE Final]**

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### **SUMMARY**

A happily ever after...?

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After the collapse of Oval Tower, the heart of Platinum Jail, all activities in the place are ceased to function.

But, even though immediate investigation has been carried out, everything eventually comes to an end, without being able to grasp hold of anything of worth.

The reason for the tower's destruction was due to the malfunctioning of the core of the tower's main system, triggering a crucial program error and hence causing a destructive explosion to happen.

At that time, everyone in the tower were miraculously evacuated, there were no deaths nor were there anyone with any serious injuries.

It seems like a mysterious mail was sent to everyone in the tower before the tower became weird.

But, a group of people who was with Toue from the beginning of the time have lost their tracks; no one knows where they could be now.

Toue's intention to manipulate human heart is made known to the public thanks to this incident, the entire world has started to repulse against Toue Corporation as a whole.

In the end, all businesses that are affiliated with Toue Corporation are equally distributed to various related industries. Same goes to the AllMates.

Another company takes over the control of Rhyme development, and Usui is no longer the main source needed to activate Rhyme.

Now, Midorijima has returned to its usual state; the residents have gone back to their usual busy routines.

Once all of us have escaped from the tower, we are admitted to the hospital in the Old Resident District. Except Granny.

Granny seems to have received proper care when she was in the tower, it wouldn't be a problem for her to take care of herself from her own house.

We... especially Koujaku and the rest are extremely weak but actually, the person who's admitted the longest in the hospital is me.

Granny has checked on Clear's situation for any possible defects as well, but it seems like there's nothing too much of a trouble with him.

He has now gone back to his house where he used to live with his grandfather. Sometimes, he'd drop by for a visit too.

Koujaku and Mizuki were one of the earliest to be discharged so they'd gone back to their usual working routine too. Noiz and Mink disappeared before I knew it.

Based on rumours, it seems like Noiz has returned to playing Rhyme.

No one could contact Mink at all, but I'm sure he's well somewhere in this world.

I look at the scene of Midorijima, my eyes shifting from left to right and left again...

And just like that, it's been four weeks since I started my hospital life.

I've never thought that there'd be a day when I'd need to be admitted into a hospital for such a long period of time.

I guess it has to do with the malnutrition I've developed when I was in the tower as well. I'm weaker than I thought I am.

That aside, Mizuki should be as exhausted as me, but I guess his stamina returns to him faster than mine could.

Oh well, I'll be discharged next week after all, perhaps it's a good opportunity for me to take a small break now.

The migraine that has always been bothering me is now gone, the sensations on my hair have disappeared too.

Everything...  
Has come to an end.

Aoba  
...

With my heads filled with thoughts, I lay on the bed in my ward, turning to one side, then shifting my gaze to look at Ren's back, who is sleeping by my legs.

I thought I'm fine but the moment I was admitted into the hospital everything comes back to be as natural as they are.

As I thought... I couldn't help but to be reminded of Sei.

When I'm admitted, Granny would drop by everyday, and I've also told her about what had happened to me and what had happened to Sei.

When I talked about Sei, Granny merely frowned with a crouched back, listening quietly to me.

I didn't know what I should say then.

At that time, if I had insisted to bring Sei out together with me, perhaps I could've saved him then. The very thought keeps resounding in my head, I couldn't help but feel guilty.

But, that wasn't what Sei wanted. He'd rejected my suggestion with a firm gaze.

That's why, I didn't do it. I have to keep reminding myself of this very fact.

But, when I look at Granny's crouching shadow like this, something else occurred to me.

Granny must be feeling worse than me, being in her position, when it comes to this matter.

When I thought about that, I told Granny this-

That Sei hated no one.

If Sei is to see Granny's situation now, he'd definitely smile at her gently and tell her not to worry as well.

When Granny heard what I've told her, she nodded, her back still curved.

When I'm admitted to the hospital, everyone has dropped by to pay me a visit.

Granny, and of course, Yoshie-san, Haga-san, Koujaku, Clear, Mizuki.

When Mizuki met Granny in the ward, he immediately apologized to her again.

Even when he did what he did under Morphine's control, he still felt remorseful for having kidnapped Granny.

I couldn't remember how many times had him apologize that Granny finally patted roughly on his back, shouting at him and telling him that it's fine, that none of those matter anymore.

And eventually, Mizuki stopped apologizing.

Mizuki would drop by every two days, I wonder if I'm giving him more problems than I should?

He'd returned to work in his tattoo studio, and he had to look after his Dry Juice members too.

Not all the Dry Juice members who were controlled by Morphine have regained their conscious.

Some have come back but there are some that are not.

When I talked about what is going to happen to Dry Juice from now on, I proposed something to him.

I suggested for myself to use Scrap on the remaining members who haven't regained their conscious.

To be honest, I don't have the perfect confidence that Scrap would be a hundred percent success.

But, now that I have accepted "Desire", and above all, knowing how much Mizuki wants to help his members, perhaps it'd work after all.

For Mizuki, his team is his family.  
That's why, I want to try as much as I could to help him.

But, Mizuki shook his head.

Mizuki  
I don't want you to tire yourself even more, so I don't want you to do that. Above that, they're my responsibility after all, since I'm their leader.

Mizuki  
It's all because of me accepting Morphine's invitation that things have become like this. I feel bad for them. But...

Mizuki  
No matter how long it'd take, I want to believe that they'd eventually wake up. ... but it'd be a different thing altogether for them to decide if they want to return to the team or not.

Mizuki  
Even if they decide not to return, then we'll see how it goes from there. Anyway, everyone is an important team member for me.

Mizuki  
I don't intend to abandon any of them. I'll save all of them. I definitely will.

Mizuki's words touched me.

At the same time, I truly think that Mizuki is a very admirable man.

That's why, I suggested to help Mizuki out too, whenever he needs me.

Mizuki thanks me with a smile.

Mizuki  
Yo, how are you today?

Aoba  
Mizuki.

Mizuki opens the door and walks in with a smile.

It's only two days until I'm discharged. Time passes before I notice it. Bored, I sit on the bed, checking out the news on the internet through my Coil.

My stamina is slowly returning to me as well, the results of my body check are fine too. Now all that I need to do is to wait for the days to pass.

I feel like the flexibility of my muscles has gone worse thanks to long hours of laying on the bed, so recently, I'd always take walks in and outside of the hospital grounds.

Mizuki  
It's almost time for you to be discharged, right?

Aoba  
Yeah, two more days. How are you, Mizuki? How's work?

Mizuki  
I'm out for some errands so I thought of dropping by. I've bought some peaches. Do you want some?

Aoba  
Yeah.

Mizuki raises the plastic bag he brings with him, then, with the sound of something being taken out of the bag, he walks towards the sink.

A bandage is wrapped around his neck. That's because he'd done a surgery to remove the tattoo on it.

Thanks to multiple times of tattooing on the same spot, the condition of his neck has worsened across time.

It's a place where skin is thin after all. There's no way he could tattoo on the same spot anymore, and that means scars will be left on the very same spot even when it's healed.

Even so, all Mizuki did was smile and saying things like 'it can't be helped, I guess'. He looks like he doesn't mind but whenever I see the bandage around his neck, I couldn't help but feel a prick on my heart.

Slowly, Mizuki comes back to me with a plate of peaches alongside a pair of forks.

Even though he mentioned peaches, the peaches Mizuki brought me aren't ones that are white in colour. Rather, they look like the ones that one could find in cans, ones that are orange-yellow in colour.

Mizuki  
Here you go.

He pushes the plate towards my direction, then sitting down on a simple chair by my bed.

I stare fervently at the plate of peaches Mizuki gives me.

Mizuki  
What is it? Are you not eating?

Aoba  
No... Mizuki, you really like peaches, huh?

Mizuki  
? Aah, because it's delicious.

Aoba  
Is there anything else? Your favourite fruit or something.

Mizuki  
Hmm...

Mizuki tilts his head, considering.

Mizuki  
If I am to mention one, orange, maybe?

Aoba  
Why?

Mizuki  
Because it's delicious.

Aoba

... W-well, I guess they're really delicious, huh?

I'm starting to feel stupid, so I poke a fork towards one of the peaches and bring it to my mouth.

As I munch on it, the sweet taste of juice spread in my mouth.

Aoba

Delicious!

Mizuki

Ou, it's peaches after all.

With a satisfying expression, Mizuki nods, then picking one peach up from the plate and brings it to his own mouth.

Mizuki

Delicious.

Aoba

Right?

When we finished half of what's left of the peaches, Mizuki stares out of the window, as if looking into a distance.

Aoba

... What's the matter?

Mizuki

Nothing. You're about to be discharged soon, right? Somehow, it's like... a lot of things happened, huh? I can't help but be reminded of it.

Aoba

... You're right.

Mizuki

Yesterday, one of our team members woke up and was discharged. He said he'd come back to the team.

Aoba

! I see, that's good.

Mizuki

Yeah. It doesn't matter to me if they want to leave the team, but I really hope that all of them can be discharged safely.

Aoba

You're right.

Mizuki

... Even if it's not because of what had happened, I don't think I can casually invite you to join the team anymore.

Mizuki smiles guiltily.

Aoba

... It's nothing, it's not like I'm bothered by that anyway.

Mizuki

But...

Aoba

It's not a matter of if I'd join or not, you should just... be like who you always are.

Aoba

That team leader who only thinks about his team.

Mizuki

That's horrible.

Aoba

It's a compliment.

This time, Mizuki laughs, finding my words to be funny, before he closes his mouth.

Mizuki

...

Just like that, he looks at me without another word.

Even when I throw him a questioning stare, Mizuki says nothing; it doesn't seem like he wants to say anything either.

Aoba

... What is it?

I ask without thinking, Mizuki looks away for just a tad, then opens his mouth, sounding like he's having difficulties trying to express his mind.

Mizuki

... Erm, something has been bothering me for a while now... Can I ask you about it?

Aoba

Huh?

Mizuki

Ah... Erm..., it's about the accident.



Aoba  
Accident?

I return his question, but all Mizuki does is frown with a difficult-looking face.

Mizuki  
... You don't remember it, huh?

Aoba  
Erm... what was it again?

Mizuki  
When we were about to go and save everyone in the tower, we took some time off to eat in the room, then... you...

Aoba  
I? .... Ah.

...Now that he mentions it, it seems like "Desire" did something to have surprised Mizuki back then.

I don't know what it was, though.

Mizuki  
... That's, an accident, right?

Mizuki looks at me, questions all over his face.

When I look at that face...

"He" surfaces, pressing me down when he does.

Aoba  
That's right.

Aoba  
That's what you wanted me to say, right?

Mizuki  
...

Aoba  
What's with that silence? Are you disappointed?

Mizuki  
Huh? Disappointed? Why do I have to be disappointed?

Mizuki looks at me, curious. I laugh at his denseness.

Aoba  
Who knows?

Mizuki  
... Not really, it's not like I'm disappointed or anything.

Mizuki  
I've been thinking about what exactly happened at that time and I couldn't come up to a proper conclusion so it's kind of, frustrating me.

I look at Mizuki, who looks more like he's speaking to himself, then, an overwhelming sort of curiosity rushes up from within me.

He's interesting so I shall tease him more.

Aoba  
I don't dislike it, you know?

Mizuki  
Huh?

Aoba  
Put it this way, let's not make that an accident then.

I lean my face closer towards his, Mizuki's eyes brightened, surprised, and quickly pull his face away.

Mizuki  
W-what is it?

Aoba  
I mean what I said. Let's not make it an accident then. If I do that, it'd be a much better relief for you, right?

Mizuki  
No, that's what I'm saying – if it wasn't an accident, then what was it?

Aoba  
...That's...



Aoba  
How about you figure that out for yourself?

... "Reason", he'll get a shock later, huh? He'll definitely ask me what I'm trying to do with Mizuki.

But, this is not too bad, right?

Mizuki doesn't look like he dislikes it, either.

Besides that...

If it's him, I could then let myself loose anytime I want, without the need to be overly concerned over anything.

Because he's the person who has always been seeing me as the same person after all – regardless if it's the me from the inside or the me from the outside. His attitude towards me has never once changed.

He could be a bit dense but, I guess that's the best for him.

I don't know if I'll ever meet someone like him again...

... I will never know.

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